NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A. Rutgers University Volume 64 No. 32 Date: November 4, 2002

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown

WXL-39 on the VHF-FM frequency of 162.40 Megahertz. Atlantic City KHB-38 on the VHF-FM

frequency of 162.40 Megahertz. **New York City** KWO-35 on the VHF-FM frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.

Philadelphia KIH-28 on the VHF-FM

frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland

Phone: (856)691-0721

Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.

Landisville

Phone: (856)697-2273 Direct Sales Daily **Swedesboro** Phone: (856)476-0313

Hightstown Phone: (609)448-0193

Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 11/04/02

Temperatures averaged much below normal. Extremes were 62 degrees at Long Branch, on October 29, 2002 and 24 degrees at Charlotteburg on November 2, 2002.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.30 inches north, 0.69 inches central, and 1.43 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.12 inches at Atlantic City Marina on October 29, 2002 to October 30, 2002.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 99 percent north, 99 percent central, and 99 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 40 degrees north, 45 degrees central, and 47 degrees south.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8 AM MONDAY 11/04/02

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures			Growing Degree Days		Soil	
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week			1/		Moisture2/	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	1
	•	- Inches -	-		- Deg	rees -		- Base	50°F -	•
				N	ORTH					
Belvidere Bridge	.25	33.46	1.56	56	28	39	-8	3336	634	99
Canoe Brook		DATA NOT AVAILABLE								
Charlotteburg	.04	35.04	.68	52	24	36	-10	2820	696	99
Flemington	.62	36.69	4.70	52	28	39	-9	3334	542	100
Long Valley	.47	27.50	-7.28	46	26	35	-11	2548	192	100
Newton	.10	32.97	1.79	54	28	37	-8	3063	687	100
				CE	NTRAL					
Freehold	.54	34.23	3.04	54	30	41	-9	3693	657	100
Long Branch	.54	36.28	4.67	62	31	43	-8	3449	465	98
New Brunswick	.57	36.99	5.47	53	30	40	-10	3525	354	100
Pemberton					DATA NOT	AVAILABLE				
Toms River	1.22	36.95	4.38	54	28	42	-9	3610	631	99
Trenton	.56	31.03	1.41	51	30	40	-11	3625	311	99
				S	OUTH			-		_
A.C. Marina	1.50	27.41	.87	54	36	46	-7	3934	815	96
Cape May C.H.	1.49	30.38	2.36	53	30	43	-11	3950	805	99
Downstown	1.41	30.40	1.20	53	28	41	-10	3707	354	100
Glassboro	1.28	28.47	-2.40	53	33	42	-9	4046	754	97
Hammonton	1.35	30.44	26	52	29	41	-10	3702	410	98
Pomona	1.62	30.74	3.01	54	28	42	-8	3693	641	98
Seabrook	1.35	32.57	4.15	54	32	42	-10	4136	758	97
South Harrison	1.26	29.71	92	53	31	42	N/A	3951	N/A	N/A

^{*}Departure from normal

- 1/ Growing degree days since March 1, total and departure from normal or long term average.
- 2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.
- (Long Valley's averages and totals are off because of 2 weeks of missing data)

AGRICULTURE

A low pressure system moved through the region last week, bringing cooler temperatures and showers across the state. Activities included equipment repair, field clean up, and harvesting soybeans and field corn. Days suitable for field work averaged 3.8. Top soil moisture was rated 74% adequate and 26% surplus. Recent rains and wet field conditions hampered corn and soybean harvest activities for several days. Producers reported colder temperatures delayed small grain emergence in some fields. Livestock producers reported improved pasture condition due to recent rains. Pumpkin and sweet potato harvest was nearing completion in most areas. Vegetable producers continued harvesting broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and kale as weather conditions permitted. Cranberry harvest continued on schedule, with crop condition rated as mostly good.

Note: This is the final New Jersey Weekly Digest for 2002. We wish to thank all the reporters and collaborators who made this report possible throughout the year. We will resume this report in April.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR	
VERY SHORT	0%	0%	33%	
SHORT	0%	0%	67%	
ADEQUATE	74%	98%	0%	
SURPLUS	26%	2%	0%	

RANGE	AND	PAST	URE
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PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS

	CURRENT	WEEK	YEAR
VERY POOR	0%	0%	10%
POOR	0%	0%	15%
FAIR	42%	46%	45%
GOOD	58%	54%	30%
EXCELLENT	0%	0%	0%

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2002

Acorn Squash – Smaller sizes being seen due to the early growing season dry heat. Less quantity this year as growers scaled back their fall plantings. Low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Butternut Squash – Smaller sizes being seen due to the early growing season dry heat. Less quantity this year as growers scaled back their fall plantings. Low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Cabbage – Green, Red, and Savoy are all available in good supply but low prices are causing some product to remain in the field. The cooler fall temperatures are great for quality. Should be available until the end of the month.

Cauliflower - Good quality and minimal quantity available.

Collards & **Escarole/Endive** – Good quantities available each week. The cooler fall temperatures are great for quality. All varieties peaking but low prices are causing some product to remain in the field. Should be available until the end of the month.

Cranberries – Harvest in full swing now. Quantity available now and building over the next few weeks and peaking during November. Available through Christmas. Dry harvested berries have been in increasing demand each year and we have an increasing quantity of quality product available. Clam shell packaging in 1 lb. and quart containers and 8 lb. boxes is typical. Polybag packaging is also available.

Greens – The prolonged drought and high heat has caused some growers to scale back on their fall planting plans. Expect a decreased

quantity overall of fall greens. Spinach, Boston, and Romaine lettuce are being harvested in quantity now. Fall greens will be harvested until frost.

Green Onions - Good quality and quantity available.

Herbs – All varieties peaking. Quantities available now for Basil, Mint, Mustard, Cilantro, Dill, Parsley, Arugula, and Baby Arugula as the cooler fall temperatures will increase quality. Less fall quantities of herbs than last year as growers have scaled back on their planting plans. Will have availability until frost.

Leeks - Good quality and quantity available.

Napa Cabbage -Good quality and quantity. Should be available for several more weeks.

Pumpkins – Past the peak of the season now. Long term heat and lack of rain created tough growing conditions that mean less quantity and size than last year. Quality should be excellent though as there has been a lack of disease pressure.

Shanghai Bok Choi – Good quality and quantity. Should be available for at least a few more weeks.

Sweet Potatoes – Good quality and quantity available. Growers are now finishing up their digging and putting them into storage while they await good market conditions.

White Potatoes - Good quantity and quality.

^{*}PROVIDED BY THE NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.